

English E/IIIA Homework Activities

Pre-Reading Activities

Activity 1 Key Vocabulary Put these words from today's article into the correct sentence.

Score: ____ /15

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I didn't know that the _____ of Nepal is Kathmandu. 2. We watched the sky _____ at sunrise. 3. Young people often don't _____ until they start to live on their own. 4. Toyota, Nissan, and Honda are examples of companies in the automobile _____. 5. With all the rain, the weather was so _____ that I just wanted to stay in bed all day. 6. American children often have their teeth _____ to make their smile perfect. 7. After her terrible car accident, Mari went to a _____ to repair her damaged face. 8. Chimpanzees are very funny when they _____ human actions. 9. Many young girls dream of participating and winning a beauty _____. 10. One of Jenny's many _____ is to play the piano. 11. When Queen Elizabeth dies, her son Prince Charles will be _____ King of England. 12. After _____ the soccer team, Billy was glad to know he had made the team. 13. Jim turned in a wallet he had found on the street and the owner gave him a _____ of \$50.00. 14. When they announced their wedding, their friends _____ the couple with many gifts. 15. Mary bought a _____ mirror so she could see herself when she tried on clothes. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. capital b. crowned c. dreary d. full-length e. industry f. lighten g. mature h. mimic i. pageant j. plastic surgeon k. reward l. showered m. straightened n. talents o. trying out for |
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Activity 2 Scanning As quickly as possible, find the answers to these questions.

Score: ____ /10

1. What do Americans spend 300,000,000 dollars on each year? _____
2. Where did most Americans buy their clothes before 1970? _____
3. What are Sears and JC Pennys? _____
4. Where is the best place to see real American beauty? _____
5. What did Michelle Royer win when she became Miss Texas? _____

Activity 3 Skimming Quickly skim (read quickly and lightly) this week's article and mark any new words or expressions. In the chart below, write all the new words or expressions you marked. When you are finished skimming, look up these new words in your dictionaries and write the Japanese meaning. When you are finished with today's lesson, add these words and expressions to your Personal Dictionaries.

English	日本語	English	日本語	English	日本語	English	日本語

Reading-in-Detail Activities

Activity 4 Reading in Detail Read today's article slowly and carefully. Try to understand everything in the article. When you are finished, read the article again out loud. Do this several times to help you understand and remember new vocabulary.

Activity 5 Discussion Questions Once you have read the articles several times, think about the questions below. You and your group will discuss these questions in class, so prepare your own opinions and thoughts before you come to class. For the last two, think of two questions about the article on your own.

1. Who is the most beautiful woman and most handsome man you know of?
2. Do you think it is important to be "fashionable?" Why/Why not?
3. Do you think you are beautiful or handsome? What is the most attractive part of your body?
4. If you could change any part of your body with plastic surgery, what would you change?
5. Have you ever seen a beauty pageant? What did you think?
6. Why do you think beauty pageants are mostly for girls or women? Why aren't there "Mr. America" pageants?
7. Do you think it is right for a young girl to have the dream to be a beauty queen? Why/Why not?
8. (your question) _____ ?

BEAUTY: A BILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS

Beauty, said our grandmothers, is only skin-deep. This is no doubt true, but Americans have discovered that there is a lot you can do to your skin. The strange thing is that white people want their skins to look browner, while black people want to **lighten** their skins. Senior citizens want to look younger, teenagers want to look more **mature**, and nearly everyone wants to look thinner. Most of us just aren't happy with the way God made us.

Americans spend billions of dollars a year on the beauty **industry**. About \$300 million is spent in "tanning salons" where people go to get brown. In the middle of a long, **dreary** winter, they may not be able to afford a holiday in a warmer climate, but they can afford ten dollars for half an hour on a "sun bed" under an electric sun.

Doctors and dentists can also join the beauty business. Dentists have done their work so well that American teeth are now 50 percent healthier than they were in 1970. To keep themselves in a job, many dentists now work on "smile repair," whitening, **straightening**, and beautifying wherever they can. And while dentists work on the perfect smile, **plastic surgeons** remove fat, shorten noses, and tighten loose skin on old faces.

And isn't only adults who are paying "big bucks" to look better. Every year, more than 150,000 American children under 18 years old are having their faces or their bodies altered through surgery. Sometimes the children themselves don't even want it - they are pressured into the operations by their parents, who want to give them an advantage in life.

Beauty was once a matter mostly for women, but now men are joining in. They purchase one billion dollars' worth of creams, after-shave preparations, and even makeup every year.

To look really good, of course, you must wear the right clothes. Until the 1970s, Paris was the fashion **capitol** of the world and most American designers usually did no more than **mimic** European fashion styles. Most Americans chose safe, familiar clothes, and millions bought everything, including shoes and underwear, from mail-order catalogs. With the birth of the Internet, however, many Americans are finding it easier to shop online. Now, even housewives in small country towns can find expensive designer clothing as easy as a click of the mouse.

In order to compete, even the traditional department stores such as Sears and JC Penneys are getting a new fashionable look. American fashion designers are also growing more confident and exciting all the time. Internationally famous designers include Norma Kamali, Ralph Lauren, and Calvin Klein, whose daring advertisements have changed the way men think about underwear. The Seventh Avenue area of New York City, the center of American fashion, is alive with new, young ideas.

Beauty may be only skin-deep, but there's a lot of it to see in America. One of the best places to see such beauty is the American beauty **pageant**. Every year, in hundreds of towns and cities all over the U.S., young girls compete in hundreds of different contests. Although most contest showcase individual **talents**, it is when the girls put on their bathing suits that you see not only beauty, but plenty of skin as well.

MICHELLE ROYER - MISS TEXAS

You won't find this easy to believe, but Michelle Royer was a shy little girl, who didn't take much interest in makeup and clothes. She used to watch the beauty pageants on TV and she never imagined that she would one day be **crowned** a beauty queen herself.

"I wasn't a cheerleader," she says. "I wasn't very popular. But there was always this eager young woman inside, trying to come out."

One Christmas vacation, Michelle suddenly decided to **try out** for a beauty contest. To her surprise, she received second prize. To her surprise also, she found she liked the feeling of being up on the stage. She went on, winning some contests, doing less



well in others, and learning all the time, about how to move, how to dress, and how to talk. And when at last she was crowned Miss Texas over 109 other young women, she had her **reward** for all her hard work.

"I was shocked when they called my name," she says. "But now, after two months, I'm really beginning to enjoy myself."

Texans are serious about their beauty queen. They **shower** her with prizes. Michelle won a car, a **full-length** fur coat, \$18,000 in cash, and an apartment for a year, as well as clothes, shoes, jewelry, purses, and dozens of smaller gifts.

They also make Miss Texas work. "I belong to Texas this year," says Michelle. "My car has 'Miss Texas' written on it, and when people see it they shout 'Hey! It's Miss Texas!' And the children smile and wave at me. So I spend time making myself look as good as possible for them. It takes me about two hours to get dressed. And I travel about to festivals, or parades, or high schools. And I work for the people who've given me gifts, and do advertising for them."

Michelle doesn't want to stop at Miss Texas. There's the Miss U.S.A. contest next year, and Miss Universe after that. She's preparing her clothes already. She's also preparing her mind. She imagines herself on the stage, winning the prize. She watches movies about people who don't expect to do well, and who come out first in the end. She plans her answers to the questions she'll be asked.

It doesn't matter how pretty you are, you can't be a beauty queen forever. When it's time to put the crowns away, Michelle would like to be a model. After that, she wants to go back to school and become a doctor so that she can help sick children. There's also the question of a husband.

"I haven't found Mr. Right yet," she says, "but I know he's out there somewhere, and I'm always looking for him."